GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2617
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
STANDARDISATION OF PFA ACT
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to standardise Indian Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 in accordance with accepted international regulations;

(b) if so, whether the existing PFA Act is not meeting the standardisation in the various food products;

(c) if so, the facts and details in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to standardise the PFA Act to meet quality control on food products coming from the foreign countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 is the enabling legislation for prescribing standards for various food products.

The existing PFA Rules and the specificationsof various food products made thereunder are sufficient to check the quality of food projects coming from abroad.

The Codex Alimentarious Commission has recommended use of many food additives for international trade and has set up different levels for different contaminants. All of them are not included in the PFA Rules.However, the process of harmonization between them has been initiated as per the requirements of the country.